To:

The Board of Managers, Chevy Chase Village

From:

Porter Wheeler, Chair, Traffic Committee

Date:

May 10, 2011

Subject:

Recommendation on Nevada/E. Melrose stop sign petition

Copies to:

Shana Davis-Cook, Village Manager

Members of the Traffic Committee

The Traffic Committee (TC) has reviewed the petition referred by the Board from homeowners for the installation of two stop signs at the intersection of Nevada and East Melrose. The TC unanimously recommends that the Board approve the request. Implementation would result in an all-way (three-way) stop intersection.

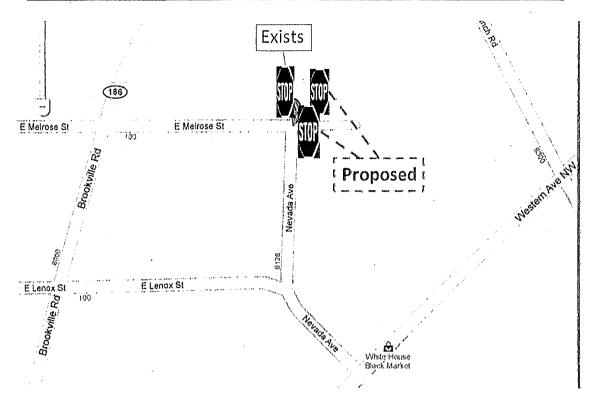
Petition was received in January, pre-dating the development of a "stop-sign policy" by the Committee, and that policy development remains ongoing. At the urging of the petitioners, petition was reviewed by the TC on its own merits prior to adoption of a "stop sign policy," although aspects of the draft policy were considered.

In their request, petitioners identified potential conflicts in traffic flow, dangerous speeds, cut-through traffic, and presence of children walking and playing. Later on, in February, petitioners made an additional request for installation (or re-installation) of a sign indicating "Caution: Children at Play."

- --The TC invited a presentation by petitioners in February and discussed the matter with them and again at several meetings.
- --The TC finds that this specific intersection has unusual conditions that warrant special attention to intersection control. This is a three-away intersection. There currently exists a stop sign for eastbound traffic on East Melrose at Nevada, but no signage for westbound traffic on East Melrose, and none for northbound traffic on Nevada, creating potential confusion among both drivers and pedestrians about which vehicles have the right-of-way.
- --TC notes that a high number and percentage of proximate households have endorsed the petition. It contained 25 signatures from 17 households. No formal verification of those endorsements was undertaken.
- --TC requested a traffic survey conducted by Village Police on March 14 to March 21. The survey showed that traffic volumes are moderate but substantial, ranging approximately 10-40 vehicles per hour by direction, with heaviest traffic southbound at 300 per day.
- -- The survey found no evidence of speeding vehicles; zero vehicles exceeded the posted 25 mph limit.

TC recommends that a stop sign be installed on Nevada northbound at East Melrose and another at East Melrose westbound at Nevada, and all marked to indicate the 3-way stop. The Committee did not endorse the request for a sign indicating "Caution Children." All signage locations to be selected by CCV Public Works in consultation with CCV Police.

Petition to Request All-way Stop Signs at Corner of East Melrose St and Nevada Ave



<u>Request:</u> This is a petition to request that Chevy Chase Village place <u>all-way</u> stop signs at the intersection of East Melrose St and Nevada Ave in Chevy Chase Village (Chevy Chase, MD).

<u>Problem:</u> As currently constituted, there is only a stop sign for East Melrose at the aforementioned intersection. Traffic coming from Nevada Ave or from the cul-de-sac at the end of East Melrose does not have to stop. This has the following negative/dangerous effects:

- It channels two traffic flows (from the cul-de-sac and Nevada Ave) unabated into each other:
- Nevada Ave traffic does not have to slow down at the corner to stop, and thus often accelerates at dangerous speeds around the bend, up Melrose and towards Brookville;
- Traffic hazard is exacerbated by the common use of this route as a cut-through, often by non-residents at rush hour, between Western and Brookville/Connecticut;
- Finally, and most importantly, there are many children who live on this square block who face considerable risk of being hit by a car.

<u>Conclusion:</u> It makes sense, both from a traffic flow and public safety standpoint, to create an all-way stop at the intersection of East Melrose St and Nevada Ave. We ask that the Village do so with all due haste and concern.

- Concerned citizens in the neighborhood (signatures/contact attached)

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Davis-Cook, Shana

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dlkmld@aol.com

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Tuesday, January 04, 2011 4:06 PM

To:

Davis-Cook, Shana

Cc: Subject: Rob Nichols Stop sign at Nevada and East Melrose

Martha Dippell and Danny Korengold, residing at 101 East Melrose St., Chevy Chase, Md., support the idea of installing a stop sign at the corner of Nevada Avenue and East Melrose. There are far too many cars heading north from Nevada and taking a right onto East Melrose that exceed the speed limit. This presents a dangerous situation for several of the younger children who live on that block. Thank you for your consideration.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

Davis-Cook, Shana

From:

Sent:

Devin Talbott [devintalbott@gmail.com] Wednesday, December 08, 2010 11:30 AM Davis-Cook, Shana Melrose-Nevada stop sign

To:

Subject:

Shana - I count 14 kids 12 yrs and under on the petition.

Devin Talbott

cell: 202-251-5547 office: 301-634-3003